Message Text

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COPENHAGEN FOR REG. FISHATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, XN, SP, US

SUBJECT: SPANISH APPLICATION FOR FISHERY PERMITS SOUTH OF 35TH PARALLEL

REF: MADRID 1742

- 1. SPANISH INTERPRETATION OF US OBLIGATIONS UNDER FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 NOTED IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL IS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT SPANISH MAY BE ANTICIPATING MUCH QUICKER DEVELOPMENT OF A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SQUID THAN MAY BE THE CASE
- 2. UNDER THE ACT, THE REGIONAL COUNCILS HAVE THE RE-SPONSIBILITY TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE A FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EACH FISHERY WITHIN UNCLASSIFIED

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ITS GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF AUTHORITY. EACH MANAGEMENT PLAN IS TO INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF THE SURPLUS, IF ANY, AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN FISHING. THE COUNCILS ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR COMMENTING ON ANY APPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGN FISHING. THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROVING FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS AND ESTABLISHING THE CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN EACH PERMIT

ISSUED PURSUANT TO ANY APPROVED APPLICATION FOR FOREIGN

FISHING.

- 3. THE ACT ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE MAY PREPARE A FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN IF THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL COUNCIL FAILS TO DEVELOP OR AMEND SUCH A PLAN AFTER A QUOTE REASONABLE UNQUOTE PERIOD OF TIME. HOWEVER, SUCH A PLAN IS STILL SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL COUNCIL.
- 4. DEPT'S EXPECTATION IS THAT RECEIPT OF SPANISH AP-PLICATIONS TO FISH FOR SQUID SOUTH OF 35TH PARALLEL IS LIKELY TO TRIGGER EITHER 1) AMENDMENT OF THE EXISTING PR:LIMINARY MANAGEMENT PLAN ON SQUID, OR 2) DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PLAN IN THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION. THERE IS A LEGAL QUESTION WHETHER A PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT PLAN CAN BE AMENDED SUBSEQUENT TO MARCH 1, 1977, OR WHETHER AN ENTIRELY NEW FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN MUST BE DEVELOPED. PROBABLY. THE PROCEDURE TO BE TAKEN BY THE COUNCILS AND DEPT OF COMMERCE WILL IN SOME WAYS DEPEND ON SPECIFIC GEOGFAPHIC AREA OF INTEREST TO GOS. IN EITHER CASE THE PROCESS WILL BE TIME-CONSUMING BECAUSE OF REVIEW PRO-VISIONS IN US LAW FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OR AMENDMENT OF MANAGEMENT PLANS, AND BECAUSE OF RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCEDURES. ALTHOUGH THE MANAGEMENT MECHANISM MAY MOVE QUICKLY, GOS SHOULD NOT BE LED TO BELIEVE THAT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL PRODUCE A MANAGEMENT PLAN TO ALLOW SPANISH VESSELS TO FISH SQUID IN THIS AREA UNCLASSIFIED

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WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Subject: SPANISH APPLICATION FOR FISHERY PERMITS SOUTH OF 35TH PARALLEL

TAGS: EFIS, XN, SP, US

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